

Specification Amendments

Please replace the abstract with the following amended paragraph:

[0140] ~~A method is disclosed for calibrating the half-tone operation of a color marking engine for creating images formed in bi-level or quad-level dot density formats. In the first step, a test pattern is run to provide an output image of a plurality of gray patches formed of first, second and third color toners. The gray patches of the output image include first, second and third sets of patches reproduced respectively at dot density levels of 25%, 50% and 75% of a maximum dot density. The relative color toner levels in the gray patches within each set of patches varies a predetermined increment in value above or below the toner levels in a median valued gray patch. The remaining steps of the method include visually selecting an output image of a selected color marking engine having a minimum color shift; determining a correction factor defined for each color at the maximum dot density; and storing the correction factor as an offset from maximum density for images created at the bilevel and quad-level formats. Methods are described for calibrating a virtual printer including a plurality of color marking engines. The methods include printing a test pattern on one of the marking engines, the test pattern including a plurality of test patches, each test patch including corresponding expected colorimetric values, reading the test pattern with a colorimeter to determine measured colorimetric values associated with each of the test patches, and creating a lookup table that maps the measured colorimetric values to the expected colorimetric values.~~